

TELEPHONE F 0484

The University of Melbourne

BACTERIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Carlton, N.3, 11th August, 1955.

Dr. J. Lederberg,
Department of Genetics,
University of Wisconsin,
Madison 6,
WISCONSIN. U.S.A.

Dear Josh,

Many thanks for the three reprints which are just to hand. I hope to reciprocate as soon as some reprints of my own are available.

For most of this year I have been busy on TB work and have discovered a most interesting isoniazid derivative which can cure guinea pig tuberculosis in two injections and in twenty-eight days. We are at present working on pharmacological aspects of the drug and potentiation by streptomycin. In addition, you probably saw in our letter to "Nature" that we have been able to show that chelation is an essential step in the action of INAH and have recently shown that the stable copper complex is highly active. It seems, therefore, that the anti-tuberculous action of INAH is like oxine, dependent upon the formation of a metal complex. We hope to publish these observations very shortly.

The yeast work, I regret to say, is moving but at glacial speed. We have been head up on our disintegrator but we are intrigued with the correlation between auxotrophy and petiteness and this is occupying more of our time than the actual restoration experiments.

My main reason for writing to you at the moment is to reopen our discussion about a visit to Australia. I have before me information of the Fulbright Programme for 1957 and we have been asked to indicate before September 15th whether we wish to have a visiting Fulbright lecturer or scholar in 1957. I am as enthusiastic as I was in Madison that you should spend three months with us as a visiting lecturer and Burnet is equally enthusiastic about the idea of a visit from you. I know at this stage you would not be prepared to commit yourself definitely but it would be extremely helpful if you would agree to allow me, with Burnet's support, to submit your name for consideration by the United States Educational Foundation in Australia. The actual time of your visit, should it come off, would best

fit our courses and probably your arrangements if it could be timed from about June 14th to the first week in September. The category under which we would request a visit from you would be as a lecturer of the standing of senior scholar of considerable experience in your subject. I feel reasonably certain that if you are agreeable to apply we could lend such support as to make your application successful.

Naturally both of us would want Esther to travel with you but I ve ry much doubt that the Fulbright Programme would support her. Nevertheless we would be only too happy to nominate Esther as a research scholar, the second category available to us, and that her job would be a bench one in our department over the same period. As I know the set-up in both laboratories Esther could quite easily bring her problem to Australia with a minimal amount of interference to her work. If, however, she did not apply or was not successful in her application we could obtain a small research grant to cover her living expenses during the three months period in Australia.

Accordingly, it would be extremely helpful if you could give this proposition some thought over the next week or two and let me know by September 10th whether (a) you would be prepared to apply and come as a Fulbright lecturer, (b) whether Esther would like her name put forward as a research scholar, and (c) would you be prepared to come if Esther's Fulbright application was unsuccessful, but we could guarantee living expenses for her while she was here.

With best wishes to you both and mutual friends,

Yours.

P.S. My Sunor demons trator has fort the me 4 of our K12 withing have died. There are used in dans numberal + 2 was winding of 7 on could send as Sub-willing, by air + chays the Deple They are 58-161 F+ 58-161 F- Mach. 2 - 10 F- 132